

Engle Has Problem At Center of Line

By DICK McDOWELL

(This is the third in a series of stories which will examine the Penn State football team position by position—today the centers and guards.)

The questionable status of co-captain Don Balthaser's injured knee and the loss of veteran guard Sam Green has produced some trouble spots in the center of Rip Engle's line. Balthaser, slated to open his second season as the Lions' regular pivotman, has been sidelined for the past two weeks. Despite the fact that the injured knee is responding to treatment, it's still a question mark as to whether the tough 190-pound center will be ready for the Illinois opener Saturday.

Despite his lack of size Balthaser has been a spearhead in the line for the Lions. He moves fast from the crouch position and was a tough man both offensively and defensively last season.

However, Engle has a ready replacement standing by in the person of junior Frank Reich who gained a lot of experience in the pivot slot last season. Reich, a strapping 6-2, 200 pounds, was a fine defensive ball player last year.

The Lions' left guard position appears to be pretty well set with lettermen Earl Shumaker, 5-9, 190 pounds, and Keith Horn, 5-11, 185 pounds, two-platooning port side duties. Both men, used extensively there last year, are aptly suited for Engle's combination winged-T, split-T attack. They possess the desired speed for downfield blocking but still carry enough weight to make them rugged competitors in the line.

The loss of Green on the right side has left Engle without an experienced guard there and the race is wide open for the position. Green and Pete Schoderbek shared the duties there last year. However, Schoderbek graduated and Green was dropped from school due to scholastic difficulties.

Senior Chuck Sowers, 6-0, 200 pounds, saw limited action there last year and has the edge in experience. Sowers, along with scrappy sophomore Dick DeLuca, junior Sam Valentine and Pete Petroff, have all been working there in pre-season drill and Engle hasn't settled on any one of them yet. Any of the four could get the job. DeLuca weighs 200 pounds, Valentine and Petroff 210.



Don Balthaser
Injured Lion Center

7 Freshman Sports Tilts Scheduled

Seven athletic contests will comprise the three freshman fall sports schedules. The first-year athletes will be visiting foreign soil for six of their encounters.

The freshman football team, under Earl Bruce, will meet Navy and Pitt away, and wind up its season against Bullis Academy at Beaver Field.

Only one foe is scheduled to test the freshman soccer squad. Frostburg Teachers academy will offer the opposition at Frostburg, Maryland.

Norm Gordon will send his frosh cross-country sprinters against Navy and Cornell in dual meets. The hill and dalers will end their season at New York City in the freshman IC4A's.

The junior gridders were the only team to carry a freshman schedule last year.

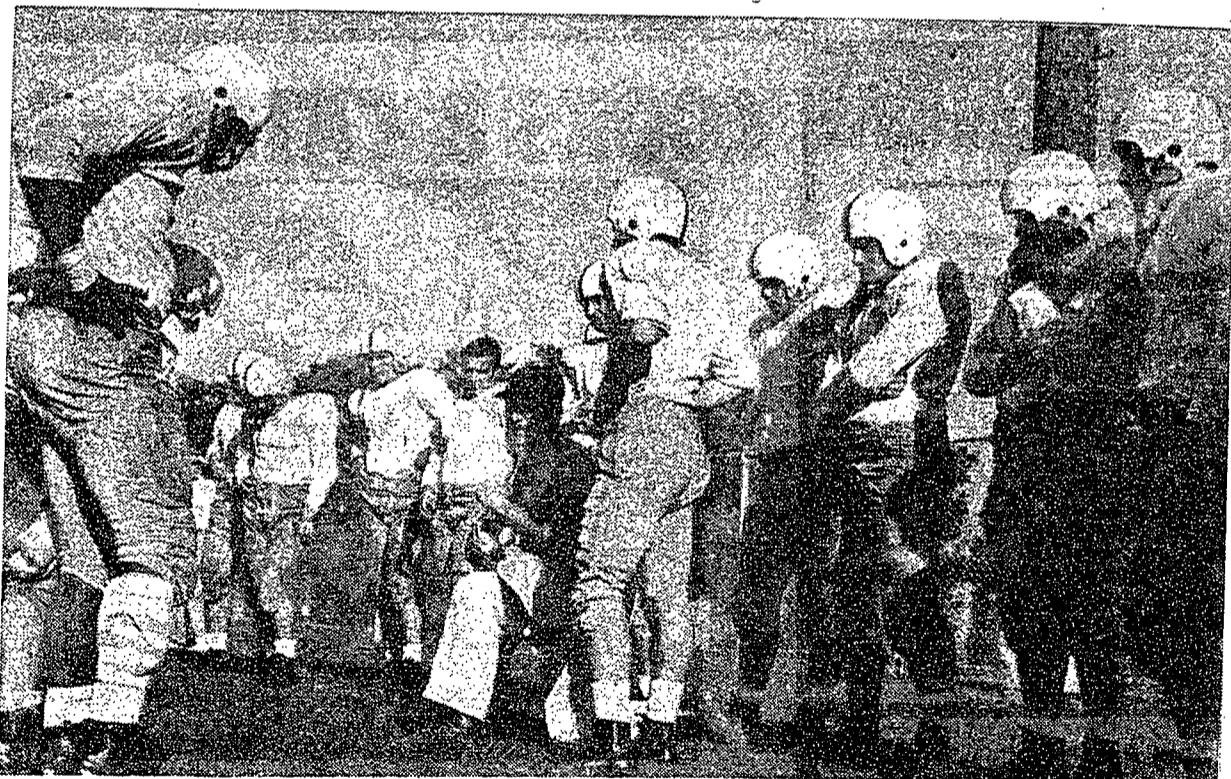
Besides adding the aforementioned soccer and cross-country schedules, the athletic department enlarged the frosh grid schedule by one in an effort to boost freshman athletic schedules.

A rugged 25-game schedule has been booked for the 1954-55 Penn State basketball team.

All-University Golf Tourney Opens Today

Students interested in entering the qualifying round of the All-University golf tournament, may do so anytime between today and Saturday night, according to golf coach Bob Rutherford. There will be an eighteen hole qualifying round. Entrants are asked to report to the golf shop behind Recreation Hall before starting play.

Words of Wisdom



LINE COACH Sevor "Tor" Toretti hands out a few pointers to Penn State gridders during a Beaver Field practice session. Toretti, like the rest of Rip Engle's coaching staff is intent on polishing the rough edges before the Lions' tough opener against Big-Ten co-favorite Illinois on Saturday. The game will mark Penn State's 68th season of intercollegiate competition.

—Photo by Hoopes

From This Angle...



By DICK McDOWELL
Collegian Sports Editor

Moore May Be Lions' Answer to Caroline

A college football halfback who is already being classed in the Red Grange, Jim Thorpe, and Glenn Davis category, and another halfback who could reach the same heights before he ends his college career, face each other across opposite lines this Saturday when Penn State opens its 1954 season against power-laden Illinois.

Last year the name of J. C. Caroline flashed across the nation's sports pages when the fabulous sophomore made shambles of the records once owned by Grange, the legendary Galloping Ghost who once rampaged on the same Illinois turf. An unnoticeable as a freshman, he ran wild for the Big Ten Co-champs last year and piled up an amazing total of 1670 yards, 1256 from scrimmage, and went on a one-game spree that netted him 195 yards.

Penn State's Lenny Moore, also in his first varsity year, didn't look that good on paper—but he was still amazing. Probably the fastest, most dazzling back ever to grace a Penn State team, he ate up 601 yards for an average of better than five yards per carry. He returned punts at the rate of 17 yards a carry and proved himself a demon as a defenseman in the Lion secondary.

Because he had two extra-fine halfbacks behind Moore—Dick Jones and Buddy Rowell—Lion coach Rip Engle rested him often during a game. And more significant, because of a super passing attack under Tony Rados, the Lions traveled primarily through the air. As a result Moore didn't get the work that a halfback of his calibre ordinarily would get. That, of course, doesn't mean that the fleet-legged tailback could have matched Caroline's amazing record, but it is an indication that 601 yards is not his absolute limit.

The comparison between the two backs is amazingly similar. Both weigh 185 pounds and are almost identical in stature. And their styles are so much alike that they may look like twins, once hidden beneath pads and helmets.

Both possess one distinct trademark—lightning fast legs, although not overmuscular, that provide a fast start and tremendous speed and power once in the open. Both have an extraordinary sense of balance, which primarily accounts for their ability to shift and cut back with such agility.

It isn't difficult, then to see why Engle and Illini coach Ray Elliot have pinned their 1954 hopes on these two swiftness. Caroline was their key man last season and Mickey Bates packed the number two wallop up the middle.

Caroline understandably has been named on virtually everybody's pre-season all-American team and was a consensus pick last year (he was named on seven of ten major teams).

When these two meet Saturday something is bound to happen. Both runners are touchdown threats every time they get their hands on the ball—a small opening, a good block and either might be on his way.

The ironic paradox between these two players may add a new twist to a game that should carry plenty of excitement on its own.

Lemon is Greenberg's Choice for MVP Award

CLEVELAND, Sept. 20 (AP)—Bob Lemon is the pennant-winning Cleveland Indians' most valuable player—in the opinion of his boss.

The Tribe's general manager, Hank Greenberg, today told the Cleveland chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, national journalism fraternity:

"The selection of the most valuable player on any team is a matter of personal opinion. If I were making the award, however, it would go to Bob Lemon."

Greenberg also predicted the Indians would win the pennant again next season, "but won't win as many games."

Coach Wins Tickets To His Own Game

RICHMOND, Va., Sept. 20 (AP)—The Richmond Quarterback Club today held its weekly drawing for two tickets to the University of Richmond's next home football game.

Today's winner: Ed Merrick, head football coach at the University of Richmond.

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